

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) Porous bodies comprising a three dimensional open cell oil-in-water emulsion-formed lattice which porous bodies are water soluble such that hydrophobic materials contained within the lattice are dispersed when the porous bodies are exposed to an aqueous medium, the porous bodies containing

(a) 10 to 95% by weight of a water soluble polymeric material and

(b) 5 to 90% by weight of a surfactant,

said porous bodies having an intrusion volume as measured by mercury porosimetry of at least about 3 ml/g; having hydrophobic material incorporated into the polymeric lattice; and comprising two types of pores:

(1) from complete sublimation of solid ice from the water phase of the emulsion, and

(2) from the complete sublimation of the oil phase of the emulsion;

with the proviso that said porous bodies are not spherical beads having an average bead diameter of 0.2 to 5mm;

wherein the oil of the oil phase of the emulsion is volatile; and

wherein the bodies are in the form of powders, beads or moulded bodies.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) Porous bodies as claimed in claim 1 wherein the polymeric material is a natural gum, a polysaccharide, a cellulose derivative or a homopolymer or copolymer comprising (co)monomers selected from the group consisting of:

vinyl alcohol

acrylic acid

methacrylic acid

acrylamide

methacrylamide

acrylamide methylpropane sulphonates

aminoalkylacrylates

aminoalkylmethacrylates

hydroxyethylacrylate

hydroxyethylmethacrylate

vinyl pyrrolidone

vinyl imidazole
vinyl amines
ethyleneglycol
ethylene oxide
ethyleneimine
styrenesulphonates
ethyleneglycolacrylates
ethyleneglycol methacrylate, and mixtures thereof.

4. (Previously presented) Porous bodies as claimed in claim 3 wherein the cellulose derivative is selected from the group consisting of xanthan gum, xyloglucan, methylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxyethylmethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxyl-propylmethylcellulose (HPMC), sodium salt of carboxymethylcellulose, or carboxymethyl-hydroxyethylcellulose and its salts.

5. (Previously presented) Porous bodies as claimed in claim 1 wherein the surfactant is non-ionic, anionic, cationic, or zwitterionic.

6. (Previously presented) Porous bodies as claimed in claim 1 wherein the surfactant is selected from the group consisting of ethoxylated triglycerides; fatty alcohol ethoxylates; alkylphenol ethoxylates; fatty acid ethoxylates; fatty amide ethoxylates; fatty amine ethoxylates; sorbitan alkanates; ethylated sorbitan alkanates; alkyl ethoxylates; pluronics; alkyl polyglucosides; stearyl ethoxylates; alkyl polyglycosides; alkylether sulfates; alkylether carboxylates; alkylbenzene sulfonates; alkylether phosphates; dialkyl sulfosuccinates; alkyl sulfonates; soaps; alkyl sulfates; alkyl carboxylates; alkyl phosphates; paraffin sulfonates; secondary n-alkane sulfonates; alpha-olefin sulfonates; isethionate sulfonates; fatty amine salts; fatty diamine salts; quaternary ammonium compounds; phosphonium surfactants; sulfonium surfactants; sulfonxonium surfactants; N-alkyl derivatives of amino acids imidazoline surfactants; amine oxides; amidobetaines; and mixtures thereof

7. (Previously presented) Porous bodies as claimed in claim 1 wherein the porous polymeric bodies also have water soluble materials incorporated into the polymeric lattice.

8. (Previously presented) Water soluble porous polymeric bodies as claimed in claim 7 wherein the water soluble material is selected from water soluble vitamins; water soluble fluorescers; activated aluminium chlorohydrate; transition metal complexes used as bleaching catalysts; water soluble polymers; diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid (DTPA); primary and secondary alcohol sulphates containing greater than C8 chain length or mixtures thereof.

9. (Previously presented) Water soluble porous polymeric bodies as claimed in claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic material is selected from antimicrobial agents; antidandruff agent; skin lightening agents; fluorescing agents; antifoams; hair conditioning agents; fabric conditioning agents; skin conditioning agents; dyes; UV protecting agents; bleach or bleach precursors; antioxidants; insecticides; pesticides; herbicides; perfumes or precursors thereto; flavourings or precursors thereto; pharmaceutically active materials; hydrophobic polymeric materials and mixtures thereof.

10.-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented) Dispersions comprising a solution of water soluble polymeric materials and a surfactant, having a dispersed hydrophobic material therein formed by exposing the porous bodies of claim 1 having the hydrophobic material contained therein to an aqueous medium.